March is our transitional month. We had a couple of snow storms and have shifted to our spring mode. We have begun street sweeping and cleaning sidewalks. This will keep a crew going for a month before everything is cleaned. At present the sweeper is in the shop for some repairs. It will be back out on Thursday, April 4, 2013. The unit is a 1990 and the years and use are catching up to it. We should be good for this year but plans should be made to replace it soon.

Our other spring ritual is pothole patching. We have utilized approximately 30 tons of cold mix since January to keep up with the potholes. We have also continued cutting roadside brush. We cut some on Halifax Street and Bay Street.

Weather permitting, we will be digging test holes on Taylor Road next week to finalize our design. I am attempting to get this project out to bid in April. This may get us more competitive bids by going to bid early in the season.

Finally, on the sewer side, Snowden Engineering is preparing plans and specs to replace the two existing pump stations at Johnny's Seeds with one new one. I am also preparing a design to replace the control panel at the pump station on the Augusta Road at Chaffee Brook. The new system will include an alarm panel which will interface with KSTD's system to alert us to alarms. At present the only alarm system at all of our stations is a red light that goes unnoticed for long periods of time. The new panels will also include a transfer switch to allow the use of a backup generator. It is my hope that over the next four to five years all nine pump stations will be upgraded and we will be able to obtain some portable generators to power them in times of need.

Respectfully submitted by,

Paul E. Fongemie

Public Works Director